

BUREAU OF HUMAN RIGHTS  
AND  
HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

TO: Pat Flood

FROM: Frank S.

The attached is for  
your information.

Could you follow up on this  
with RP, in particular with  
Mary Kavaliunas and Jim  
Purcell. The money still  
hasn't moved. Mary told me  
some weeks ago they would try  
to do this via a reprogramming

Thanks.

Done 3/7/80  
PP

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OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 STATE 168898  
ORIGIN HA-05

4161

INFO OCT-00 ARA-11 IO-14 ADS-00 AID-05 SR-04 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /050 R

DRAFTED BY HA: ORM: FASIEVERTS: ND  
APPROVED BY HA: ORM: FASIEVERTS  
AID/PPC: JSILVERSTONE  
HA: MSCHNEIDER  
HA: PFLOOD (DRAFT)  
ORM: MKAVALIUNAS  
S/R: FMOSS  
S/R: CRUSSELL  
ARA/ECA: CBRAYSHAW (PHONE)

-----009141 300354Z /17  
O 300205Z JUN 79  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168898

E. O. 12065: GDS 6/29/79 (SIEVERTS, FRANK A.) OR-O

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR

SUBJECT: USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC PROGRAM IN  
ARGENTINA

REF: GENEVA 10841 AND PREVIOUS  
(C-ENTIRE TEXT)

1. PLEASE INFORM ICRC THAT USG HOPES TO CONTRIBUTE TO  
ICRC'S PROGRAM TO ASSIST REFUGEES AND DETAINEES IN  
ARGENTINA.

2. WE HOPE TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS FROM THE REFUGEE  
EMERGENCY FUND AFTER IT IS REPLENISHED BY THE SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATION NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE CONGRESS. FINAL  
ACTION ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL IS EXPECTED IN JULY.

3. IN INFORMING ICRC YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT PROVIDING FUNDS  
FROM THE REFUGEE EMERGENCY FUND REQUIRES A PRESIDENTIAL  
DETERMINATION, AND THAT WE CANNOT MAKE ANY COMMITMENT TO  
PROVIDE THE FUNDS UNTIL THE DETERMINATION IS SIGNED BY THE  
PRESIDENT. WE WILL TRY TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS BY AUGUST.  
CHRISTOPHER

Declassified Case: 17X-87080 Date:  
08-03-2012

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GENEVA 10841 271659Z

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5092

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 12065: GDS 6/27/85 (PALMER, STEPHEN) OR-0

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR

SUBJECT: USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC ~~PRISONER~~  
PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA

REF: GENEVA 10085

1. (C ENTIRE TEXT) ICRC HAS AGAIN INQUIRED IF THERE  
IS A RESPONSE FROM THE USG ON ITS REQUEST FOR USG  
SUPPORT OF THE ARGENTINIAN PRISONER PROGRAM. REQUEST  
RESPONSE TO REFTEL AND PREVIOUS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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P 141535Z JUN 79  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4634  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 12065: GDS 6/14/85 (PALMER, STEPHEN) OR-O  
TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR  
SUBJECT: USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC PRISONER PROGRAM  
IN ARGENTINA

REF: (A) GENEVA 10075 (B) GENEVA 8877

ICRC SUMMARY OF ITS ARGENTINA PRISONER PROGRAM FORWARDED  
REF A. IN DISCUSSION WITH MISSION OFFICERS, CONVERS AND  
CORTHESEY OF ICRC OFFERED CONVINCING ARGUMENTS THAT THIS  
PROGRAM AFFORDED A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE OF PROTECTION TO THE  
ARGENTINIAN PRISONERS, MAINLY IN INHIBITING DISAPPEARANCES,  
AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN AMELIORATING PRISON CONDITIONS.  
THE PROGRAM IS CONTINUING AND WILL REQUIRE AN ADDITIONAL  
550,000 SWISS FRANCS FOR THE BALANCE OF CY 1979. A NEW  
APPEAL WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE 1980 PROGRAM, BUT ICRC  
DOES NOT WISH TO LAUNCH A NEW APPEAL NOW, PREFERRING TO  
GIVE THE US AND OTHERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE QUIET CON-  
TRIBUTIONS TO AN ON-GOING PROGRAM. THEY HOPED THE US  
COULD NOW CONTRIBUTE. PLEASE ADVISE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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ACTION

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3891

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

*A. A. 576*

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 08877

E.O. 12065: GDS 5/26/85 (PALMER, STEPHEN) OR-0

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR

SUBJECT: USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ICRC PROGRAM IN  
- ARGENTINA

REFERENCES: (A) 7 STATE 280184, (B) 78 BUENOS AIRES 9152,  
(C) 78 GENEVA 17508

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. NESSI OF ICRC INFORMED HA MIN-COUNSELOR THAT FUNDS  
DEDICATED TO ICRC'S PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA WILL RUN OUT LATE  
JULY OR EARLY AUGUST. ANOTHER APPEAL FOR FUNDS IS BEING  
CONSIDERED. ICRC WONDERS WHETHER USG IS INTERESTED ENOUGH  
IN THE ARGENTINA PROGRAM TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT IF SUCH AN  
APPEAL IS MADE. NESSI SAID EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES APPEARED  
TO VALUE ICRC'S WORK THERE. HE NOTED THAT USG HAD NOT  
SUPPORTED THE JULY 1978 APPEAL.

3. ICRC WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REACTION.  
SORENSEN

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ GENEVA 09321

E.O. 12065: GDS 6/1/85 (PALMER, STEPHEN) OR-0

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR

SUBJECT: USG SUPPORT FOR ICRC PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA

REF: GENEVA 8877

1. (C) AT MISSION'S REQUEST, ICRC WILL PROVIDE TO US  
NEXT WEEK A SUMMARY OF ITS ARGENTINA PROGRAM AND RELEVANT  
BUDGETARY PROJECTIONS. SORENSON

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, SREF, ICRC, AR

SUBJ: USG SUPPORT FOR ICRC PRISONER PROGRAM IN ARGENTINA

REF: GENEVA 5321

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MEMORANDUM PREPARED BY ICRC ON ICRC PRISONER ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA DURING 1978. MISSION COMMENTS FOLLOW IN SEPTEL.

2. QUOTE.

FROM JANUARY TO THE END OF APRIL 1977, THE ICRC CARRIED OUT THE FIRST SERIES OF VISITS TO PLACES OF DETENTION IN ARGENTINA. THESE WERE SUSPENDED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND RESUMED IN DECEMBER.

3. VISITS TO PLACES OF DETENTION

THESE VISITS CONTINUED RIGHT THROUGH 1978. THE ICRC DELEGATES WENT TO 32 PLACES OF DETENTION WHERE THERE WERE ABOUT 4,000 DETAINEES. AFTER THE RELEASE OF DETAINEES IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR, THE AUTHORITIES STATED THAT AT THE END OF 1978 THERE WERE 2,500 HELD AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

MOST PLACES OF DETENTION WERE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL PENITENTIARY SERVICE. TWO - THE MILITARY PRISON OF MAGDALENA, PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES, AND THE MILITARY CAMP OF LA RIVERA, PROVINCE OF CORDOBA, CAME UNDER THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. A THIRD CAME UNDER THE FEDERAL POLICE IN BUENOS AIRES.

SOME OF THE PLACES OF DETENTION WERE VISITED ON TWO AND EVEN THREE OCCASIONS. THIS WAS THE CASE FOR THE SEVEN PLACES OF DETENTION WHERE THERE WERE THE GREATEST NUMBER OF DETAINEES, NAMELY, THE PRISON OF VILLA-DEVOTO IN BUENOS AIRES, AND THOSE OF LA PLATA, SIERRA CHILA, RAMSON, CORONDA, RESISTENCIA AND CORDOBA.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA WHICH THE ICRC CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL FOR THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY AND THE CONDITIONS ACCEPTED BY THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES IN 1977, THE DELEGATES WERE ABLE TO TALK TO ALL THE DETAINEES IN PRIVATE, COMPILER LISTS OF NAMES, DISTRIBUTE VARIOUS RELIEF ITEMS AND UNDERTAKE A PROGRAM OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO DETAINEES FAMILIES.

THESE CONDITIONS ALSO STIPULATED THAT THE ICRC WAS FREE TO MEET ALL PERSONS DETAINED BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN ARGENTINA. THIS FREEDOM WAS GRANTED IN MOST OF THE PLACES VISITED BY THE DELEGATES, WHO MET ALL THE DETAINEES HELD AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE, THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND THE FEDERAL POLICE AND THOSE IMPRISONED BY THE MILITARY TRIBUNALS. HOWEVER, IN TWO PRISONS, THOSE OF RAMSON AND BAHIA-BLANCA, THEY WERE UNABLE TO VISIT 17 DETAINEES WHO

HAD YET TO APPEAR BEFORE THE MILITARY TRIBUNAL.

BESIDES THE PERMANENT CONTACT ESTABLISHED BY THE DELEGATION IN BUENOS AIRES WITH THE AUTHORITIES, ALL THESE VISITS WERE RECORDED BY THE ICRC AND THE REPORTS WERE HANDED TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT.

IN APRIL DURING A MISSION TO ARGENTINA, THE DELEGATE-GENERAL FOR LATIN AMERICA DISCUSSED THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICRC WITH THE MINISTERS OF THE INTERIOR AND OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND WITH THE GENERAL CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND THE COMMANDER OF THE 3RD ARMY CORPS.

IN NOVEMBER A MEMORANDUM WAS HANDED TO THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR SUMMING UP THE STATEMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF THE DELEGATES AS A RESULT OF THEIR VISITS. THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES INFORMED THE ICRC THAT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THESE OBSERVATIONS, STEPS HAD BEEN TAKEN TO REMEDY SHORTCOMINGS REPORTED BY THE DELEGATES.

AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE ICRC, THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES RELEASED SEVERAL DETAINEES FOR HEALTH REASONS.  
4. RIGHT OF OPTION

IN RELATION TO THE RIGHT OF OPTION, THE ICRC IS CALLED UPON AT REGULAR INTERVALS TO CONTACT THE FAMILIES OF DETAINEES AND EMBASSIES ABLE TO PROVIDE VISAS AND TO TAKE STEPS WITH THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

THESE HAVE GIVEN THEIR FORMAL AGREEMENT TO THE ICRC'S HANDLING THE CASES OF DETAINEES WHO HAVE NO CLOSE

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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RELATIVES AND WHO ARE THEREFORE UNABLE TO EXERCISE THIS  
RIGHT PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE ARGENTINE CONSTITUTION.

5. MATERIAL ASSISTANCE

IN THE BEGINNING OF 1977 THE ICRC STARTED A PROGRAM  
OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE MOST NEED FAMILIES OF DETAINEES.

THIS ACTIVITY WAS STEPPED UP IN 1978, SO THAT BY THE  
END OF THE YEAR 900 FAMILIES, COMPARED WITH 200 IN THE  
BEGINNING, WERE RECEIVING THE BENEFIT. THIS CONSISTED OF  
A FOOD PARCEL EVERY MONTH AND, IN CERTAIN CASES, EMERGENCY  
MEDICAL AID ALSO.

IN SOME PRISONS THE DELEGATES GAVE DETAINEES  
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE AMOUNTING TO 13,500 SWISS FRANCS.  
MOREOVER, EVERY MONTH FROM OCTOBER ONWARDS THE ICRC  
GAVE DETAINEES IN THE LARGER PRISONS WITH NO FINANCIAL  
RESOURCES SMALL SUMS OF MONEY WHICH THEY COULD SPEND IN THE  
PRISON CANTEENS.

IN 1978, THE MATERIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE ICRC  
TO DETAINEES AND THEIR FAMILIES AMOUNTED TO 171,300 SWISS  
FRANCS ( INCLUDING 5 TONS OF MILK DONATED TO THE ICRC  
BY THE SWISS CONFEDERATION ).

6. MISSING PERSONS AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL  
TRACING AGENCY

THE AGENCY OFFICE IN THE DELEGATION IN BUENOS AIRES  
CONTINUED RECORDING THE NAMES OF PERSONS REPORTED MISSING  
AND HANDED THESE LISTS TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.  
AT THE END OF THE YEAR THE ICRC HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY NEWS  
FROM THE LATTER.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AGENCY OFFICE MAINLY CONSISTED  
IN RECORDING, ON INDEX-CARDS, ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING  
TO DETAINEES VISITED, TRANSFERRED AND RELEASED. IT ALSO  
ISSUED ABOUT 120 TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO REFUGEES WITHOUT  
IDENTIFICATION PAPERS, WHO WERE AUTHORIZED TO LEAVE  
ARGENTINA AND GO TO ANOTHER COUNTRY.

7. STAFF STRENGTH

IN 1978, THE DELEGATION IN BUENOS AIRES, WHICH IS  
ALSO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION  
FOR THE COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTHERN CONE, WAS MADE UP  
OF EIGHT PERSONS, NAMELY, ONE PERSON IN CHARGE, TWO  
DELEGATES, TWO DOCTOR-DELEGATES, ONE AGENCY DELEGATE,  
A PERSON FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND A SECRETARY.  
IN ADDITION, THE ICRC RECRUITED 13 PERSONS LOCALLY.

8. FINANCING

IN JULY 1978, CONSIDERING THE EXTENT OF ITS  
ACTIVITIES OF PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE IN ARGENTINA,  
THE ICRC MADE AN APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND NATIONAL  
SOCIETIES OF A SCORE OF COUNTRIES FOR 2.4 MILLION SWISS

FRANCS A YEAR. BY THE END OF 1978 THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF  
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE ICRC CAME TO 1,061,705 SWISS  
FRANCS AND BY THE END OF APRIL 1979, 1,990,606 SWISS FRANCS  
AND BY THE END OF APRIL 1979, 1,090,606 SWISS FRANCS.

EXPENDITURE TO DATE AMOUNTS TO 1,240,550 SWISS  
FRANCS, THE AVAILABLE BALANCE BEING 650,500 SWISS FRANCS.  
TO COVER THE ESTIMATED EXPENSES FROM MAY 1979 UNTIL THE  
END OF THE YEAR, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE AVAILABLE BALANCE  
AND OF THE CURRENT MONTHLY BUDGET OF 150,000 SWISS FRANCS  
FOR OPERATIONAL COSTS AND PROGRAMS OF ASSISTANCE FOR  
DETAINEES AND THEIR FAMILIES, AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF  
APPROXIMATELY 550,000 SWISS FRANCS IS REQUIRED.

9. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROGRAM AS OF APRIL 30,  
1979 WERE:

CANADA	163,480.00
GREAT BRITAIN	134,420.00
NETHERLANDS	176,250.00
NORWAY	313,922.46
SWEDEN	391,900.00
SWITZERLAND	500,000.00

IN ADDITION, 175,415 SWISS FRANCS WERE GIVEN BY  
NATIONAL SOCIETIES FROM AUSTRALIA, CANADA, FEDERAL  
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, JAPAN, SPAIN,  
SWEDEN AND 35,218.25 SWISS FRANCS FROM OXFAM AND  
MISCELLANEOUS IN SWITZERLAND. VANDEN HEUVEL

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